

then the freebies would have some relation to the legislation they are pushing. There are many other areas of concern I have in regard to this issue, particularly why the hard-working cows in the Northeast are not seeing the money from the extra profits that the large processors are making. I am surprised that animal rights and labor activists have not raised issue with the long hours worked and extra milk that cows in the Northeast are forced to produce. I am doubly surprised that my good friends from the Northeast can sit in Washington eating free ice cream while poor children in New England end up paying more for their school lunch milk because of the dairy compact.

If we as the United States can no longer expect to give a fair (milk) shake to dairy farmers and consumers across the country, then maybe it is time for the Northeast to secede from the Union. Maybe Canada would be willing to accept them. But then, of course, the North American Free Trade Agreement would require them to practice free trade and eliminate the dairy compact.●

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL DROBAC

● Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to thank a departing member of my staff for his contributions to the State of Oregon. Michael Drobac, who currently serves as my legislative aide for defense, labor and judiciary issues, is a native of Eugene, Oregon. Michael received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Stanford University and has been a highly valued aide in my office since my election to the United States Senate.

In my short time in the Senate, I have grown to expect and receive unadorned direct advice from Michael on a variety of issues and projects helping Oregonians. He has worked tirelessly on drug control issues and judicial appointments. Michael has worked attentively with affected Oregon communities and the Department of the Army to resolve safety and economic issues surrounding the Chemical Demilitarization program at the Umatilla Depot in Oregon. His advice and work on defense related issues on both the national level and in conjunction with Oregon's fine National Guard has always been exemplary.

Michael, is returning to Oregon to attend Law School at the University of Oregon. I wish him well and do not doubt that Michael will put his law degree to good work. I join my staff in thanking him for his time and expertise. Given his background, good character and passion for public service, I would not be surprised to see Michael's return to Washington, DC, sometime in the future, working again on behalf of the state of Oregon.●

COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, as we enter the twilight of the Twentieth Century, we can look back at the immense multitude of achievements that led to the ascension of the United States of America as the preeminent nation in modern history. We owe this title as world's greatest superpower in large part to the twenty-five million men and women who served in our armed services and who defended the principles and ideals of our nation.

Before we embark upon the Twenty-First Century, the American Legion will celebrate its 80th anniversary serving our nation's veterans. Since the first gathering of American World War I Doughboys in Paris, France on March 15th, 1919, the American Legion has upheld the values of freedom, justice, respect and equality. The American Legion eventually was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic, mutual-help, war-time veterans organization. A community-service organization which now numbers nearly 3 million members—men and women—in nearly 15,000 American Legion Posts worldwide.

The American Legion's support for our nation's veterans has been exemplary over the last eighty years. Shortly after it's founding, the American Legion successfully lobbied for the creation of a federal veterans bureau. With the American Legion's support, the agency developed a veterans hospital system in the 1930s. In 1989, another American Legion plan became reality: the elevation of the Department of Veterans Affairs as a cabinet-level agency. The American Legion also successfully advocated for the compensatory rights of veterans, victims of atomic radiation, PTSD, Agent Orange, and Persian Gulf syndrome.

Over the past eighty years, the American Legion also has been active in promoting the values of patriotism and competition with our nation's young people. There are many sons and daughters participating in American Legion sponsored programs such as American Legion Boys and Girls State, Boys and Girls Nation, the National High School Oratorical Contest, and the Junior Shooting Sports and American Legion Baseball.

Throughout my service in Congress, I have long appreciated the leadership of the South Dakota American Legion for its input on a variety of issues impacting veterans and their families in recent years. The American Legion's insight and efforts have proven very valuable to me and my staff, and I commend each and every one of them for their leadership on issues of importance to all veterans of the armed forces.

Mr. President, as Americans, we should never forget the men and women who served our nation with such dedication and patriotism. I close my remarks by offering my gratitude

and support for all the achievements performed by the American Legion. For eighty years now, the American Legion has been the standard bearer in the representation of our veterans. I want to extend my sincerest appreciation to the American Legion for its continued leadership.●

ELIZABETH BURKE

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Elizabeth Burke, who has been chosen as a 1999 Community Health Leader by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for her efforts to combat domestic violence. As one of 10 outstanding individuals selected each year to receive this distinguished award for finding innovative ways to bring health care to communities whose needs have been ignored and unmet, Ms. Burke's work on behalf of domestic violence victims has become a national model.

A former victim of domestic violence, Elizabeth Burke was hired to start up the Domestic Violence Medical Advocacy Project at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh in 1994. The project is a joint effort between Mercy Hospital and the Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh, and since its start five years ago, the hospital has increased the identification of domestic violence victims by more than 500 percent. Women are offered counseling, education, shelter and employment programs in the 24 hour, 40 bed facility. The Center screens all women who are admitted into the hospital, identifying domestic violence victims at a point when they are most receptive to help.

Ms. Burke is responsible for training hundreds of physicians, nurses, social workers as well as others in prevention diagnosis, treatment and advocacy for victims of domestic violence. Since coming to the project she has successfully bridged the gap between the domestic violence and medical fields to create a comprehensive response to victims of domestic violence. From emergency room screenings to follow-up services to an extensive prevention network, she ensures that abused women get help before the violence destroys their lives.

Ms. Burke's efforts don't stop there. She also chairs the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence and makes presentations on domestic violence to a broad community. In addition, she serves as adjunct faculty at the University of Pittsburgh, University of Missouri and West Virginia University.

Mr. President, many victims of domestic violence have been touched by Elizabeth Burke's compassionate spirit. I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Ms. Burke for her extraordinary contribution to the Pittsburgh community and to all victims of domestic violence.●